

The FRIENDS of
BAY CITY STATE RECREATION AREA

24th Annual

Winter Festival

Saturday, February 18, 9AM-7:30PM

Bay City State Recreation Area

Sponsored by
Frank's Great Outdoors
Saginaw Bay Walleye Club

A Michigan State Parks, "GET OUTDOORS!" EVENT
Discover New Ways to Enjoy Winter's
Free Fishing Weekend!

Highlights Include:

9AM-1PM Youth Ice Fishing Clinic,

9AM-1PM Ice Fishing Derby

10AM-2PM Snow Snake Clinic

2:30PM Snow Snake Tournament

1:30PM Native Americans—Winter in the Woodlands

5:30pm Michigan Owl s & Owl Prowl

7PM Winter Night Sky Wonders

Just Add Snow!

For more activities check out: www.michigan.gov/saginawbayvc

9AM-1PM Ice Fishing Clinic— Make Your Own Ice Fishing Pole Try out this great outdoor sport with your own hand-made pole & lure. Free materials. Includes Ice fishing tips, Fish ID and Ice Safety. Begins in Lobby

9AM-1PM Ice Fishing Derby Join the ice fishing crew from Frank's Great Outdoors and the Saginaw Bay Walleye Club! They'll be down on the Tobico Lagoon Dock helping you experience Michigan's Free Fishing Weekend! We'll provide the poles and the bait! Take a peek at the latest ice fishing underwater camera, and glean tips and techniques for catching fish. Free raffle drawing for great prizes for everyone who tries out this great outdoor sport! Trophy for the largest fish caught by 12:45PM today. Free Bait & Hot Cocoa! Loaner Fishing poles Raffle 1PM Activity Shelter

10AM-1PM Make A Snow Snake! Begin before 1:30pm. Learn about this traditional Native American sport, create your own snow snake and then try it out at the snow snake tournament, which immediately follows the 1:30pm Ice Fishing Raffle. Will yours travel the farthest across the ice??? Sanding, carving, decorating and waxing the snow snake is a Native American craft. Enter yours in the snow snake art contest, 1:30pm, for a chance for a prize! Begins in Meeting Room.

11AM Winter Bird Hike Join naturalist guide & see how many birds are at the winter festival today! Start your life bird list today. Tips on bird ID & binoculars. Meet in Field Ob. Rm.

12PM Ice Crystal Crush What will you find in the frozen ice? A fun, energy burning activity for kids! Hidden treasure frozen in ice! Back Porch

12:30AM Winter Scavenger Hunt

A fun way to explore the winter wetland! Team that finds the most items on the list wins an Outdoor Explorer Kit including binoculars and field guide. Have fun as you take a closer look at Michigan's great outdoors! Meet in the bird observation room for instructions!

12:30-2:30PM Tracks! Discover tips on how to read wildlife tracks & signs, a fun outdoor skill for any wildlife detective. Then use your detective skills to identify the tracks along our Track ID Trail! You may even win a prize! Ongoing in Meeting Room

12:30PM Winter Geocaching! Discover how to use a GPS Smart Phone App to explore Michigan's Great Outdoors! Naturalist will help you work through the use of the GP/s app to discover a hidden cache in the park, then you will work with your family to locate 4 other cache's hidden in the park. Meet in Wet Lab

1PM Ice Fishing Raffle Great prizes to be given away to those who took the Ice Fishing Challenge! Trophy for the largest fish. Free raffle tickets to all anglers. Activity Shelter

1PM Bald Eagle Hike Discover the raptors that hunt the Saginaw Bay Shoreline. Naturalist guide will share favorite places to observe eagles and other birds of prey and hike to a location to watch for the park's Bald Eagles roosting near their nest. Meet in Bird Observation Room.

1:30PM Native Americans—Winter in the Woodlands Explore the winter world of Michigan's Native Americans with historian/archaeologist, Mike Slasinski. Find out how they spent the winter's in Tobico! Immediately followed by the **Great Tobico Snow Snake Contest** Auditorium

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2PM Bald Eagles Find out about this Great American Conservation Success Story and the important environmental lesson which our National Bird taught us. Then hike to a location to watch for the park's Bald Eagles roosting near their nest. Auditorium

2PM Winter Wonders Hike Naturalist guided hike. Discover winter birds, animal track stories and winter nature lore! Meet in the Field Observation Room

2PM Snow Snake Art Contest Entry Deadline Enter your snow snake in a competition for the most creative snow snakes! Must enter it by 2pm for judging. Back of Auditorium

Appx. 2:15PM Tobico Snow Snake Contest Whose snow snake will slide the farthest? Kids will try out their skill & their snow snakes for a chance to win a medal. Race will be conducted in heats and is fun to watch. Medals & prizes for winners. Contestants and spectators meet in the Auditorium

2:30PM Wetland Mammal SKULL FORENSICS Naturalist will help you discover techniques for detecting "clues" to identification for Michigan Mammal Skulls. Use your detective skills to identify the "Mystery Animals". Meeting Room

2:30PM Live Lamprey –Great Lakes Invaders Do you know what the greatest threat to Michigan's Natural Resources and the Great Lakes Ecosystem? Meet one of these threats and find out how you can help stop others from destroying Michigan's natural world! Wet Lab

2:30-3:30PM Butterflies in Trouble Discover the Monarch and learn how they are unique. Find out how they spend their winter and what the winter Monarch counts are telling biologists about these beautiful creatures. View a butterfly collection and learn about how volunteers are helping to "Save the Monarch". Find out how you can help in your own backyard. Field Observation Room

3PM Bald Eagle Hike Naturalist guided hike to a park location to watch for the park's Bald Eagles roosting near their nest. Immediately following 2PM Bald Eagle program. Meet in Auditorium

3-4:30PM Tie a Fly for Ice Fishing Make a simple bait that the fish will love! Wet Lab

3PM Bird Feeding 101 & Bird Feeder Project Backyard birds can be fun to watch and identify. Learn tips on identification and how to attract birds to your feeder! Then make a basic bird feeder to take home to your yard! Auditorium

3:30PM Under the Microscope Explore a drop of water and discover the amazing creatures that live within it! Find out why water is a "living resource" in the wetlands. Wet Lab

4:00PM Deer Trails Expand your White-tail Deer IQ. Discover their unique adaptations and why Chronic Wasting Disease is a threat to their survival. Concludes with a hike to a nearby deer "yard" Begins in Auditorium

4:30PM Owl Call Game Learn to ID the calls of our common owls through this fun listening game. A fun way to prepare for the evening owl calling hike. Auditorium

5PM Owl Puke Lab Discovery lab investigating the owl's food chain.. Meeting Rm

5:30PM Whoooo's Out There Tonight? Tips on identifying Michigan's Owls. Auditorium

6:00PM Owl Calling Hike A naturalist guided experience, utilizing special wildlife calling equipment we will attempt to call in owls from their winter roosts. Dress for night time temperatures.

7:00PM Winter Night Sky Wonders Join Delta College Planetarium Astronomer, Mike Murray, as he shares the celestial wonders that are visible in the Winter Sky. He'll share awesome photographs of these night time star "treats", give tips on tools available to explore the night sky, then he will lead a outdoor "hike" of the park's dark sky. with the use of binoculars! Dress for night time temperatures.

Don't Miss Kid's Kraft Korner

Ongoing Throughout the Day

Next Special Event:

Wetland Wake-Up Day, Saturday, April 22

Saturday in the Park Programs take place every Saturday at 1pm

2-25—Snow Spies! & Spring Forecasters

3-4—Fly Tying 101:

A Winter Leisure Time series on Fly Tying!

3-11—Cold Proof Critters!



Mark your calendar...

Check out the Bay City State Recreation Area

Bald Eagle Nest Web Cam— Beginning March 1

connect to the camera through the

Friends of BCSRA website: www.friendsofpark.org